



Information Memorandum

Oregon Department of Human Services

Originating Cluster:

Seniors and People with Disabilities

Authorized by: Elizabeth Lopez, Administrator

Signature

IM Number: SPD-IM-03-079

Date: September 8, 2003

Subject: Disability Cash Assistance (Partial Restoration of General Assistance Program)

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> County DD Program Managers |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children Adults and Families | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Human Services | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | |

Message: The Oregon State Legislature recently approved state general fund dollars to provide cash assistance to some individuals previously served under the former General Assistance (GA) Program.

As you are aware, the GA program was discontinued in February of this year. This program provided cash assistance to individuals with little or no income with severe mental and physical disabilities who were waiting for their Social Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits to be approved.

The Department of Human Services budget, recently approved for the 2003-05 biennium, provides for a more limited program. The program will serve approximately 1,100 individuals. This assistance will only be provided to individuals determined by the Department of Human Services to be potentially eligible for SSI benefits only.

The revised program will require significant changes in policies and procedures and a work group is being formed to expeditiously develop proposed revisions. Following development of these policies and procedures, all information and directives will be provided to the field.

Implementation of the program will occur as soon as the policy, procedures and computer programming is completed. Outreach efforts will be included in the work group's plan, so please do not perform outreach locally until instructed to do so.

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

Contact(s):	Karl J Bien		
Phone:	(503) 945-6409	Fax:	(503) 373-7902
E-mail:	karl.j.bien@state.or.us		